

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

For Week Ending May 19, 1991

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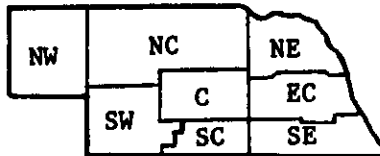
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WEATHER

The week was wet and warm. Temperatures averaged four to six degrees above normals. Precipitation occurred throughout the week with amounts from .13 inch at Valentine up to 4.22 inches at Norfolk.

GENERAL

Nebraska farmers and ranchers had excellent fieldwork opportunities for the first part of last week. Rains and related storm activities on Thursday delayed fieldwork for most of the remainder of the week statewide. Crop and some farmstead damage was reported in areas where hardest hit by the storm. Early week warm temperatures were very beneficial to crop development and pasture regrowth.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 9% poor, 44% fair, 45% good, and 2% excellent. Recent rains continue to benefit most wheat fields. In fields where a previous lack of moisture caused thin stands, weed control measures continue. The crop was heading rapidly in many southern fields, ahead of last year's progress, but behind average.

Corn planting made excellent progress during the first part of the week reaching 94% completed, ahead of

CROPS (Cont.)

both last year at 88% and 90% for the 5-year average. Some early planted corn that hasn't yet emerged has been replanted while other producers are rotary hoeing to break the crust in an effort to aid plant emergence.

Spring planting of soybeans and grain sorghum has begun in earnest in most areas of the State. Soybeans are 30% planted. This compares with 16% last year and 32% for the average. Sorghum producers have planted 28% of their acreage to date, ahead of last year at 9% and the 5-year average at 27%.

Alfalfa producers continue to report evidence of cloverleaf and alfalfa weevils in a few locations. Condition of the crop was rated at 1% poor, 29% fair, 56% good, and 14% excellent. This improvement reflects the improved growing conditions. Wild hay condition also exhibited improvement and was rated at 1% poor, 34% fair, 52% good, and 13% excellent.

Soil moisture conditions continued to improve last week for both topsoil and subsoil moisture supplies.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition also improved and is currently rated at 85% of normal, in the good to excellent category. Producers continue to move cattle to summer pastures. Some areas are still awaiting more sunshine for improved grass growth.

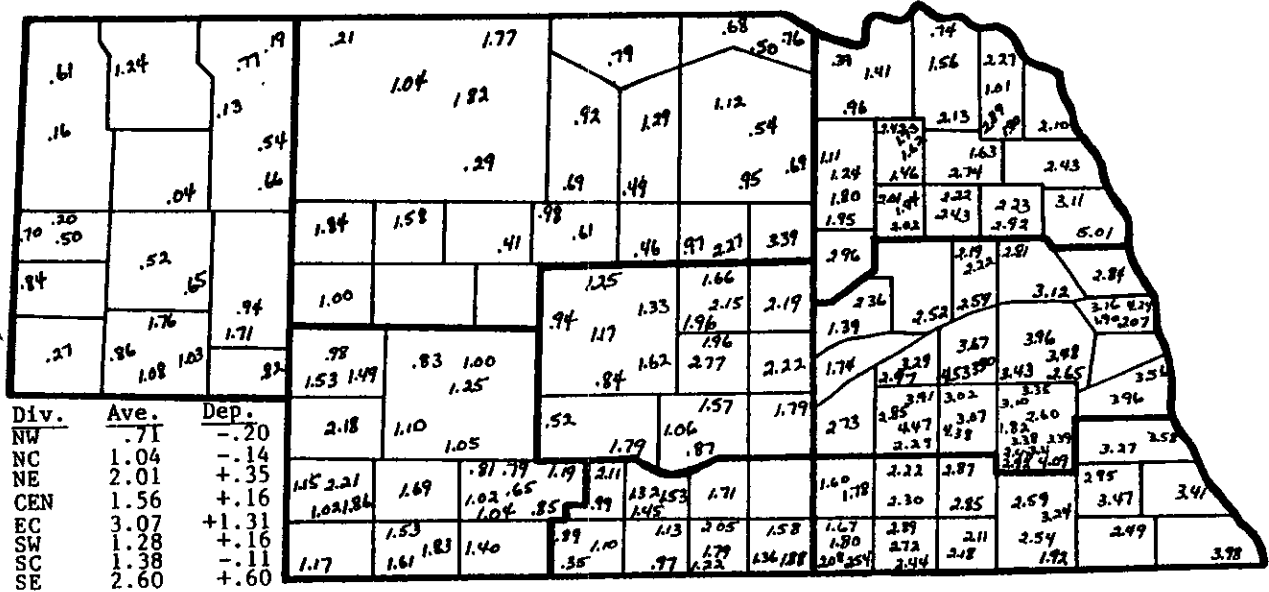
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 19, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% wheat jointed	76	65	59	69	87	93	100	100	88	67	96	93
% wheat headed	0	16	9	1	5	5	76	58	20	0	5	24
% alfalfa first cutting	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	11	1	0	0	5
% corn planted	89	86	88	89	100	98	100	100	94	50	88	90
% corn emerged	35	20	21	31	63	36	64	75	44	4	38	48
% sorghum planted	0	14	24	14	33	6	17	33	28	4	9	27
% sorghum emerged	0	3	3	1	4	1	0	2	2	0	2	6
% soybeans planted	0	10	14	25	33	19	32	51	30	4	16	32
% soybeans emerged	0	0	1	6	7	0	2	19	7	0	2	8
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 17, 1991												
Days suitable	4.3	5.0	4.8	4.5	5.2	4.9	5.1	5.1	4.9	3.6	2.6	
Topsoil moisture - Short	6	0	0	0	0	0	17	12	4	9	11	
(Percent) - Adequate	70	77	68	85	58	89	83	70	73	78	81	
- Surplus	24	23	32	15	42	11	0	18	23	13	8	
Subsoil moisture - Short	53	46	21	39	21	67	92	47	44	14	76	
(Percent) - Adequate	41	54	79	61	79	33	8	53	55	53	24	
- Surplus	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	

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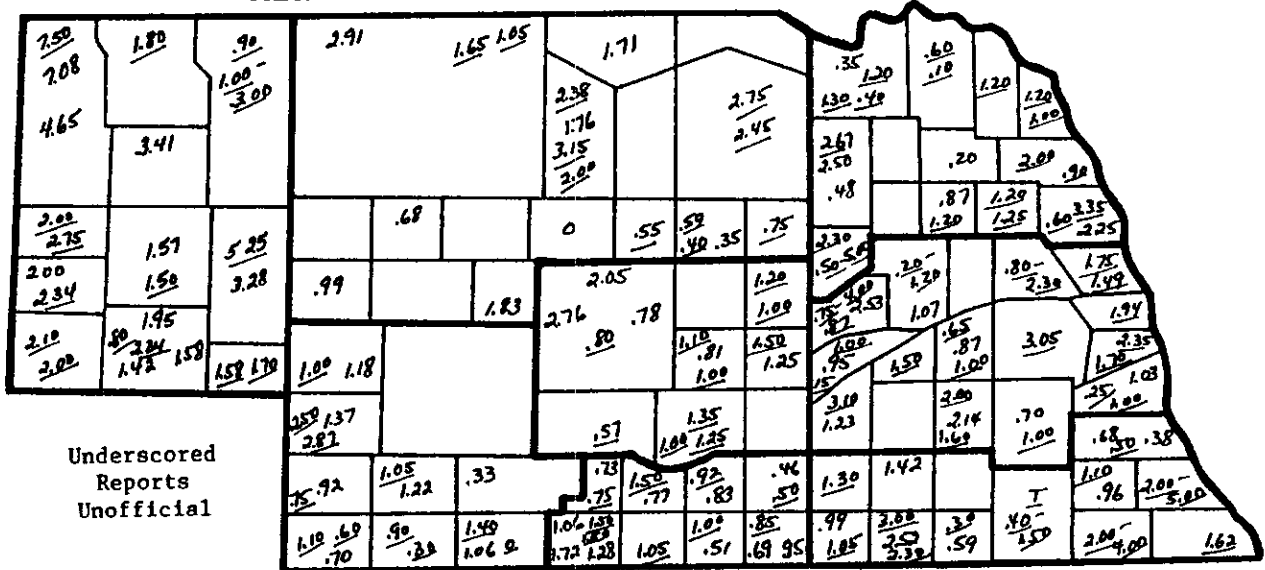
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PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF MARCH 1991 1/



1/ Courtesy of the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 17, 1991



	Precipitation, April 1 - May 17, 1991							
	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	2.99	1.28	1.29	1.53	1.32	.97	.90	1.08
Total since April 1	4.26	4.72	5.74	5.98	5.98	4.49	4.31	4.37
Normal since April 1	3.43	3.98	4.52	4.35	4.99	3.47	4.07	4.95
Total as % of normal	124%	119%	127%	137%	120%	129%	106%	88%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 19, 1991

Station		Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15 1/		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	92	41	61	+4	2.17	180	252	270
	Sidney	87	32	60	---	.96	179	262	280
NC	Valentine	92	41	63	+6	.13	179	279	262
NE	Norfolk	86	48	65	+4	4.22	---	---	---
	Sioux City	88	49	66	+5	1.08	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	184	278	324
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	186	281	305
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	221	329	331
	Grand Island	86	50	65	+4	1.35	223	341	310
CEN	Ord	86	48	65	---	.60	199	297	327
	Lincoln	86	51	67	+5	1.00	245	375	335
	Omaha	86	50	67	+5	1.15	215	348	303
EC	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	222	343	318
	York	---	---	---	---	---	220	345	338
	Imperial	85	40	63	---	.97	---	---	---
SW	North Platte	86	39	62	+4	1.12	**186	**269	**317
	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	205	301	346
SC	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	261	384	383
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	235	345	353

* Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station.

1/ The growing degree starting date has been changed to April 15 to reflect more closely the beginning planting date of corn.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 1.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.